




Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements






SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

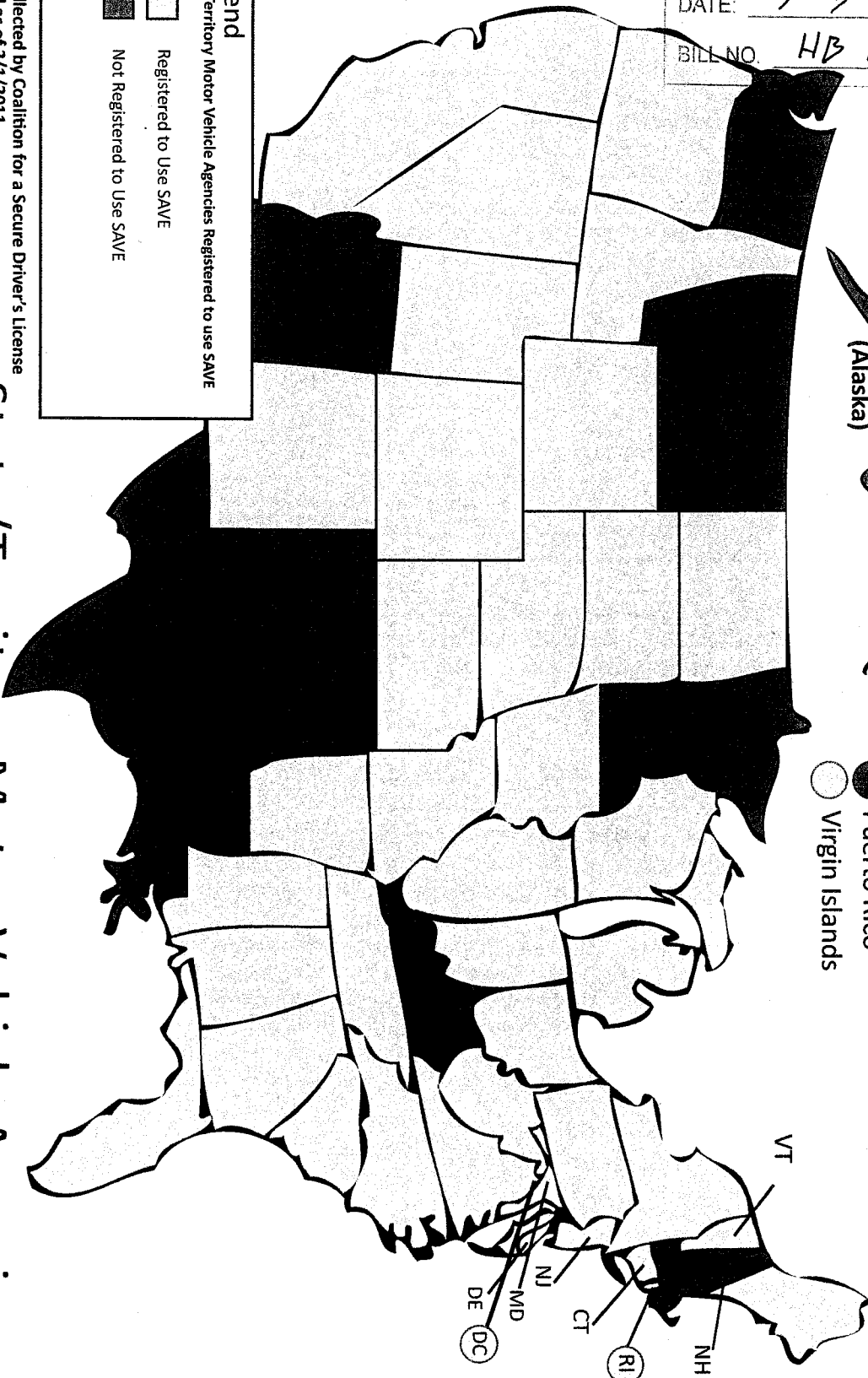
EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE: 3-3-2011



BILL NO. HB 178

 Coalition for a Secure Driver's License

-  American Samoa
 -  Guam
 -  Northern Mariana Islands
 -  Puerto Rico
 -  Virgin Islands
- (Alaska)
- (Hawaii)



Legend
State/Territory Motor Vehicle Agencies Registered to use SAVE

-  Registered to Use SAVE
-  Not Registered to Use SAVE

Data Collected by Coalition for a Secure Driver's License
Updated as of 2/1/2011

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State/Territory Motor Vehicle Agencies
Registered to use SAVE

What is SAVE?

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) is an online system used to verify the immigration status of eligible noncitizen applicants for certain state and federal programs and benefits.

In 1986, Congress passed the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA), which required INS to establish a system for verifying the immigration status of noncitizen applicants for, or recipients of, certain types of federally funded benefits, and to make the system available to federal, state, and local benefit-issuing agencies and institutions that administer such benefits. The IRCA and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), mandates the following programs and overseeing agencies to participate in the verification of an applicant's immigration status: the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program, the Medicaid Program, and certain Territorial Assistance Programs (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services); the Unemployment Compensation Program (U.S. Department of Labor); Title IV Educational Assistance Programs (U.S. Department of Education); and certain Housing Assistance Programs (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development).¹

These programs mandated the use of SAVE, but since then other state and local benefit and privilege agencies, such as motor vehicle agencies, voluntarily use SAVE to verify lawful status of noncitizen applicants. To date, the SAVE program has 572 participants.² Most state motor vehicle agencies use the SAVE system to verify a noncitizen's proof of lawful status before issuing the applicant a driver's license or identification card. The program, run by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), is currently in 42 state and territory motor vehicle agencies and processes between 9 and 12 million driver's license/ID queries a year. (See chart on back page for states registered to use the SAVE system).

The Importance of Verifying Lawful Status:

Each year, millions of visitors, foreign students, and immigrants come to the United States. A visitor may enter on a legal temporary basis with an authorized period of stay that expires on a specific date, such as a tourism, business or work visa. Alternately, qualified visitors from Canada and 27 other countries may enter under the permanent Visa Waiver program for up to 90 days.

In most cases short term visitors do not need a driver's license as many states have reciprocal agreements that allow a noncitizen visitor to use his or her home country's license for up to one year. However, some noncitizens attempt to remain in the country illegally after their duration of stay has expired. Many seek full term driver's licenses to blend in with US citizens and legal permanent residents. The SAVE system helps motor vehicle examiners determine if the applicant should be issued a license and for what duration. Public Law 109-13 requires complying states to not only verify lawful status (using SAVE or other DHS approved method) but to tie termination of status with the expiration of a driver's license or ID.³ This is to prevent a one year visitor from obtaining a five or six year driver's license.

The SAVE system is an efficient way to fulfill this requirement. 42 of 56 state and territory motor vehicle agencies are registered to use SAVE.

42 Motor Vehicle Agencies are registered to use the SAVE Program

Alabama	Nebraska
Arizona	Nevada
Arkansas	New Jersey
California	New York
Colorado	North Carolina
Connecticut	North Dakota
Delaware	Ohio
District of Columbia	Oregon
Florida	Pennsylvania
Hawaii	Rhode Island
Georgia	South Carolina
Idaho	South Dakota
Illinois	Tennessee
Indiana	Utah
Iowa	Vermont
Kansas	Virginia
Maine	West Virginia
Maryland	Wisconsin
Michigan	Wyoming
Mississippi	American Samoa
Missouri	Virgin Islands

1. Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program User Manual, Chapter 2- Page 1, September 2000

2: USCIS/SAVE PowerPoint presentation, "Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program," AAMVA 2010 Annual International Conference, September, 2010. (Note: number increased by four to reflect new motor vehicle agencies using SAVE since September, 2010.)